

Kidder & Sons

The Wilmington Post.

VOLUME IX.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1878.

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WILMINGTON POST ADVERTISING RATES.

Fifty cents per line for the first insertion and twenty-five cents per line for each additional insertion.

Eight (8) lines, Nonpareil type, constitute a square.

All advertisements will be charged at the above rates, except on special contracts.

Special rates can be had for a longer time than one week.

The subscription price to THE WILMINGTON POST is \$1.00 per year, six months 75 cents.

All communications on business should be addressed to THE WILMINGTON POST, Wilmington, N. C.

B. KENNEDY, Business Manager.

CITY ITEMS.

A slight frost was reported on the low grounds on Monday night, but no damage therfrom.

Our probabilities thinks, that the present is such an early spring for vegetables, that it will rain this week.

The annual meeting of the Wimington Compress and Warehouse Company will be held on Tuesday, the 2nd of April.

The storm signals have been set on the Magistrate's offices for some days, as a desire, if not an indication of the break in the drought.

Self-appointed candidates, for the suffrages of their fellow-citizens, should remember, that the last man in, is of ten the first man out.

Hon. Geo. P. Kane, Mayor of Baltimore, passed a few days in our city on his return from the south. Mayor Fishbale did the honors from a full hand.

If the colored man, who picked up a pair of eye glasses on Chestnut street, between Third and Fourth streets, on last Monday week, will leave them at the Post printing office he will receive the thanks, &c., of the owner.

The market house is undergoing a long needed improvement, and with its new gas lamps, and the Joseph's coat it wears in paint, it will be noticed as the first public advancement of the present Board, in the decorative arts.

Chicken disputes, dog fights, and the like seem to have an attraction for some of our "best" citizens. We have no desire to interfere as to a matter of refined taste, but we mention it merely as suggesting that it might break down the "color line."

The penalty for breaking windows, for small boys, is now, one shilling, one exposed view, twenty motions of the right arm, the payment of costs and glass, and the end of justice is satisfied. So says Justice Harris, but the end of the boy is not as well content.

The Charlotte Dramatic Company, we understand, are soon to give an entertainment in this city for the benefit of St. John's Episcopal Church. They will receive a kind welcome, and fair ladies will for this object put all of the gowns in marching order to ensure a full audience.

Shipping continues to arrive in our port. Freights are dull and the demand light at most of the southern ports. Wilmington seems always to be able to turn out something for a cargo and not send any vessels away that are seeking a freight.

Messrs. I. B. Grainger and F. W. Kerchner, as a committee from the Chamber of Commerce, are now in Washington upon an invitation of the Chairman of the House Committee, in the interests of establishing steamship communication with foreign ports.

The cases against the property owners on whom the city has a claim for laying the Belgian pavement on Front street, were tried before Justice Wagner, on Monday last, where the sum did not exceed \$200. The decision was in favor of the city. The Superior Court will have the same matter before them at the next term.

Jesse J. Cassidy, Esq., an old citizen and late Associate Editor of the Post, returned to the city last evening after an absence of nearly a year in Illinois. He left with a height of about six feet two and a diameter of No. 20, wire gauge, and returns resembling Senator David Davis. His many friends are pleased to welcome him back.

Simmon's & Co's minstrels exhibited at the Opera House on Friday and Saturday of last week, but not to even fair houses. The Post occasionally notices an entertainment to occur on the last of one week and the first of the next, and the treasurer of the Post notices that his time is fully employed at the box office. We will say, however, that it was an excellent company.

MAGISTRATE'S MEETING.—The county Magistrates will have a meeting on the 30th day of the month, at the court house, and organize as a Board. The purpose of the meeting is to provide for the carrying out of the election law, but the purposes may not end here, and sundry offices may be considered as an appropriate tail to the cat.

We mention, as an unusual thing, that on the eve of an election, as we are at present, no candidates are in the field for the various offices to be voted for in August. It is to be hoped that a number of Republicans will duly announce themselves and pay for advertisements in the Democratic papers, where it is to be presumed their strength lies, as in days of old, in the locks of Sampson.

The Mayor's court for the week has, in a business point of view, been dull.

A few trifling cases of infringement of the ordinances were disposed of on

short interviews with his Honor, and the city is now at peace. Several tramps who had through walking tickets were advised not to stop over under the present passenger arrangements.

The hotels are considering whether a protest is important in the matter, as we go to press.

Some of the postal agent's desire to have the new uniforms of the police of a different cut and color of those prescribed for them, as they are under the impression that they cannot withstand the demands made on them for police service. As they can wear citizens clothes when not on duty it seems as though there was no occasion for grief.

How will it affect them to meet the Revenue Marine, Army and Navy officers, who are burdened with the same color. Or is this whole matter a suggestion of somebody else?

Jefferson Davis, of Wayne county, arrived at the Manning House on Thursday last. It was not Jefferson de Mississippi, but there was so much in a name that our fellow citizens flocked around, to see "our old chieftain," as the Review has it, and wanted to do something more than ordinary.

John Smith, of Virginia, lately came near falling a victim to the same evasions, but Pocahontas not being along the Cornet Band was not called into requisition.

THURSDAY Evening, 21st inst.

The consideration of the apportionment bill, which was a special order for the evening was discussed and the report of the committee and the views of the Aldermen were heard. The final determination of the apportionment is as follows:

For the Police Department, \$15,277; Streets, \$6,330; Fire, \$6,170, Light, \$6,393; Sanitary, \$1,590; Elections, \$190; Public Buildings, \$1,850; Printing, Advertising and Stationery, \$700; Prisoners, \$150; Miscellaneous \$400; Extraordinary, \$1,700. Total, \$40,560.

The resolution now goes to the Board of Audit for concurrence.

The salary apportionment was fixed by the Board at \$5,040, but was afterward stricken out.

Mr. Duncan Holmes, who has contracted to keep the above mentioned bridge in repair for a term of five years, presented his bond, which the Board accepted.

The Board then adjourned.

Mr. Geo. W. Gates, formerly of the C. C. Railway, and later master mechanic appointed by the Commissioners of the N. C. Railroad and removed when the new Board came into power a year ago, has, we are pleased to know, been reinstated after one year's trial of a Mr. Marsh. Mr. Gates is experienced in his profession and is a practical and theoretical engineer, with a knowledge built up from hard work and much study. His thorough knowledge of all that pertains to the rolling stock of railroads should have retained him in his place when he was deposed, but the correction of the error then made is more complimentary to his efficiency and skill than any recommendation.

COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS.—Since our last issue, Hon. Joseph C. Abbott, who for nearly four years has been Collector of this port, has resigned and ex-Mayor Canaday has been appointed to that office and been confirmed by the Senate.

Gen. Abbott represented the State in the U. S. Senate from 1868 to 1871 and earlier was a member of the Convention which framed the Constitution under which the state was admitted subsequent to the war. As a Senator his views were liberal, and, although a prominent Republican, he was not a partisan in an extreme sense, but advocated the interests he represented in the Senate in a manner to insure the respect of the better portion of the people of the state irrespective of party.

Ex-Mayor Canaday was not an applicant for the office of Collector in the event that Gen. Abbott desired a re-appointment when his present commission expired. Gen. Abbott retires from an uncompleted term with an administration approved by the commercial interests, and Mr. Canaday as his successor will enter upon the duties of the office with administrative abilities well known in our community.

POST OFFICE REGULATION.—The Postmaster-General has issued a regulation of the department governing the transmission of printed matter, which is very important, inasmuch as it overrules a long established practice in the department. Heretofore nothing but a business card was permitted upon a wrapper of printed matter.

Foster, Voller, and Hill were appointed by the Mayor under the above resolution.

The Mayor's private detective was allowed \$35 per month, to be deducted from collections made under his reports of violations.

Adjourned.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

OFFICE TREASURER & COLLECTOR, CITY OF WILMINGTON, N. C.

great deal of interest and has been to some considerable expense in obtaining the Moffet bell punch to exhibit to our citizens, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That His Honor, the Mayor, appoint a committee of three to inquire into the lawfulness and practicability of adopting the Moffet Bell Punch as a privilege to retail liquor.

Foster, Voller, and Hill were appointed by the Mayor under the above resolution.

The Mayor's private detective was allowed \$35 per month, to be deducted from collections made under his reports of violations.

Adjourned.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

OFFICE TREASURER & COLLECTOR, CITY OF WILMINGTON, N. C.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

SOL BEAR & BROS.,

18. 20 MARKET ST.

OFFER TO THE PUBLIC, AT THE

LOWEST NET PRICES,

ONE OF THE LARGEST AND

CHEAPEST STOCKS OF

READY MADE CLOTHING

AND

GENTS FURNISHING GOODS,

Boots,

Shoes,

Hats,

Caps and

Dry Goods,

Carpeting,

Blankets,

&c., &c.

Give us a call before purchasing elsewhere.

COAL--COAL.

IF YOU WANT TO KEEP WARM AND

get the worth of your money, buy your

Coal from the undersigned. We have the

best

GRATE and

STOVE COAL,

in the market. Also that superior

ENGLISH COAL.

for quick and hot fires.

Send the cash--and orders will be filled

promptly

WORTH A WORTH.

March 1-14.

I. B. GRAINGER, Receiver.

GENERAL UPHOLSTERS & PAPER HANGERS,

N. W. Cor. Second and Princess Sts.,

WILMINGTON, N. C.

NOTICE.

ALL PARTIES TO WHOM THE CARO-

DAIN CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY JUSTLY IN-

DEBTED, for the debts, or amounts

furnished prior to the road passing into the

hands of receivers on April 5th, 1876, will

present that same at once for exami-

nation and payment.

For the Police Department, \$15,277;

Streets, \$6,330; Fire, \$6,170, Light,

\$6,393; Sanitary, \$1,590; Elections, \$190;

Public Buildings, \$1,850; Printing, Ad-

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ordinary, \$1,700. Total, \$40,560.

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The salary apportionment was fixed

by the Board at \$5,040, but was after-

ward stricken out.

The Mayor was authorized to deter-

mine the pay of the street hands, the

Board adopting 85 cents as the maxi-

mum and 75 cents as the minimum for

a day's work.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICE.

I HAVE THIS DAY GIVEN WILLIAM

E. SPRINGER an interest in my HARD-

WARE BUSINESS. The style of the firm

will hereafter be JOHN DAWSON & CO.

JOHN DAWSON,

WILMINGTON, N. C. Jan. 21, 1878--Feb 1-14.

SPECIAL PROCLAMATION.

TO THE GOOD PEOPLE OF WIL-

MINGTON:

IF YOU WANT THE VERY BEST

BEEF,

PORK,

SAUSAGES,

&c., &c.

CALL AT

KING'S MARKET,

On Second Street, between Market and

Princess streets.

ISAAC W. KING.

D. L. RUSSELL,

Attorney at Law,

WILMINGTON, N. C.

Office at residence, corner of Second and Dock Streets.

THE WILMINGTON POST.

W. P. CANADAY,
Editor and Proprietor.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,
FRIDAY MORNING MARCH 29, 1878.

QUARANTINE OF THIS PORT.

We do not write this article with the purpose of censuring any one, but rather to state our views as to the proper course to be observed by all parties having interests involved under the quarantine laws of the state, the observance of which are deemed necessary in every well regulated community. There are two parties having supposed differences of opinion, the authorities who are charged with the protection of the city against the introduction of contagious diseases, and the commercial interests that demand no restrictions on commerce beyond a careful supervision and enforcement of the quarantine laws as viewed from the most enlightened standpoint.

The commercial interests ask that the same privileges be extended to the commerce of this port as is allowed in other ports, and it is not to be presumed that they desire to in any way endanger the health of the city or the lives of any person connected with their interests, by favoritism, or other demand, than a strict enforcement of every safeguard that experience has shown to be necessary. On the other hand we do not think that our Mayor and the Board of Aldermen intend to exact unreasonable provisions in the enforcement of quarantine law detrimental to the commerce of the port.

It seems to us that the quarantine officer is properly charged with the strict enforcement of his duties and that his leaning, in every instance, would be extreme on the side of assured safety, and that no officer who values his reputation as a medical expert would ever decide a doubt other than on the side of the health of a citizen as against the entire commerce of the port. We deem but three things essential to escape contagious diseases brought from foreign ports during the approaching summer, cleanliness of our city; confidence in the quarantine physician, and the loading of infected vessels at quarantine. Under such regulations we think that the lives and business interests of our citizens will be guarded, and that no contagious disease need be apprehended except from inland.

GEORGIA REPUBLICANS.

We give below the views of the Georgia Republican, as to the platform of the party of that state. It is broad enough, and enlightened and liberal in its purposes to command the respect of the people of that state who are wise in their generation. Under the 8th article, wherein the privilege to vote *just once* and untrammelled is thought to be a liberal request, we think much of prosperity or adversity for the state depends. It is possible for corrupt combinations to temporarily succeed, but the days of hanging witches in New England have passed into oblivion, and political compulsion will receive emanicipation at the hands of a free people as surely as compulsory labor, and at a day not in the distant future.

The resolutions are as follows:

2. Resolved, That the United States is a nation, not a confederacy; a government of the people; by the people, for the people; not a league of sovereign states.

3. Resolved, That "The state of Georgia shall ever remain a member of the American Union; the people thereof are a part of the American nation; every citizen thereof owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and government of the United States, and no law or ordinance of this state in contravention or subversion thereof shall ever have any binding force."

4. Resolved, That the first duty of the government is the protection of all its citizens in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property.

5. Resolved, That prosperity and human liberty depend upon the education of the people; that education increases the security of life and property prevents crime, makes better citizens, promotes happiness, teaches responsibility and independence of character, enlarges the sphere of intellectual enjoyment, purifies public morals, and enlisted public opinion, as well as the influences of religion against immorality and crime.

6. Resolved, That a system of general education, to be forever free to all the children of the state, should be established by the General Assembly and amply maintained by taxation or otherwise.

7. Resolved, That free speech and a free press are essential to the maintenance of human liberty.

8. Resolved, That the exercise of the elective franchise is one of the most sacred rights and solemn duties of an American citizen, and that every qualified voter should be protected by the full power of the government, if need be, in the free and untrammelled exercise of the right to vote "*just once*" at all elections.

9. Resolved, That mechanics and laborers should have liens upon the property of their employers for labor performed or material furnished, and that the General Assembly should provide for the speedy enforcement of the same.

10. Resolved, That we view with apprehension and alarm the following features of the Constitution of 1877, viz: The omission to provide for the protection of mechanics and laborers; the failure to insure an efficient system of free common schools; its certain tendency to trammel and unjustly limit the elective franchise, and the refusal of its framers to provide for a suitable punishment for persons engaged in dueling, as was provided in the Constitution of 1868, thus virtually re-establishing the code in Georgia.

We therefore earnestly solicit the co-

operation of all good citizens in efforts to secure in these particulars, at least, amendments to the Constitution.

11. Resolved, That the present system of punishment for criminals in this state, commonly known as the "chain-gang and flogging out" convict labor system, is a *relic* of barbarism, and degrades the honest labor of the state by being brought into competition with it; and we demand that the General Assembly shall remedy this evil at the earliest day possible, by providing a system of punishment for criminals that is not inhuman.

We speak of the national debt, but do not think how enormous it is. Some years ago, by adding some claims allowed, it amounted to three billion dollars. If this sum was in \$1 gold pieces, and laid down in a pile, although one will only be two hundredth part of an inch thick, it would make a pile 236 miles high. But if you would spread it out on the ground, it would carpet 9,838 acres. If you prefer it in silver dollars, lay them down in a row and they would reach around the globe, over sea and land, once and one-fourth more. Should you desire to move it, it would require 98,750 wagons, with a ton to each; place the wagons in procession, giving the space of a team between each, it would make a line of wagons over 385 miles long; traveling at the rate road wagons do, it would require twenty-three days to pass your door. Now if this amount of cash had been in nickels—5 cents each—and piled up in one corner of the Garden of Eden, on the day Adam was turned in, and he had let that apple alone, and had gone to work at the pile of money to give us a "fair count" and had he counted sixty per minute working eight hours per day, six days in the week, he would not be through the job yet by many years.—*Hiram Martin, in Cincinnati Star.*

This statement has evidently been a matter of some figures to Hiram and it may prove valuable to the Secretary of the Treasury by enabling him to figure down to a dot how much time will be required to get in the legal tenders after resumption. It also enables many doubtful minds to approximate the extent of the Garden of Eden. There is one cheerful thought surrounding these estimates, and that is that the Treasury has a larger clerical force than is known to have been employed under the civil service rules of the Administration of Eden.

THE NEW DOLLAR.

From an elaborate article in the New York *Herald* we take the following extracts showing the process of coining at the Philadelphia mint. We should, if space permitted, copy entire, as the description is very full and interesting:

THE PHILADELPHIA MINT.

The United States mint in Philadelphia is a handsome white marble, two storied structure, with an imposing Grecian porch, supported by high Doric columns, and approached by a flight of wide marble steps. The Philadelphia mint was founded April 2, 1872, the first director was appointed by President Washington April 14, 1892, and the present building, which is situated on the pleasantest part of Chestnut street, near Broad, was first occupied on the 23d of May, 1883.

RECEIVING ROOM.

In the centre of the building is the receiving room. It is surrounded by the offices of the director, the chief assayer and the smelting department, with which it has easy access. Much depends upon the absolutely exact and nice working of the receiving department through which all the material used in the mint first passes; for it is only from the perfect administration of this department that the losses and gains of the minting process can be realized. The work of the delivery department must at each month's balance with the receiving registry, and if there is a deficiency in the accounts an investigation follows and the discrepancy is discovered. The nugget, pure or mixed with quartz, old, unused or worn out plate; ancient jewelry, bars from the assay offices of the government and from foreign countries, and refuse matter in every conceivable form are received at this point, to be transmuted into beautiful bright coin, to be upon its errand of good or evil, as the medium of exchange for the business of the world.

SCALES TO WEIGH A GRAIN OF DUST.
The consignment, whether it be small or large, is first carefully weighed, and the weight, character of metal and number of the consignment are entered upon the books of the receiving department and also upon a tabulated statement of each day's proceedings. As exactitude is of paramount importance in this, the initial stage of the work, it is requisite that the officials should be painstaking and trustworthy men, and that they have at their command means of weighing their valuable receipts to a perfect nicely.

AN INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE.
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THE SEPARATING ROOM.
The separating room occupies the greater part of the western side of the building on the second floor. The gold and silver ingots are separated from each other after samples have been once melted and assayed. In separating and purifying gold a certain quantity of pure silver is added. The whole is then immersed in nitric acid, which dissolves the silver and leaves the gold pure. The silver solution is drawn off and the gold is left at the bottom of the tub. In preparing silver the mass is melted and granulated and dissolved in nitric acid. It is then a chloride and contains all of the base metals. The chloride is precipitated by using common salt, and rendered into a thick, creamy mass. By pouring zinc on the precipitate it becomes metallic silver, and washing and melting brings it into virgin.

MELTING ROOM.
In this department there is a force of forty-one men engaged in smelting gold and silver or in subsidiary operations. Of this force there are seven masters and seventeen helpers engaged solely in melting silver. The gang are now working exclusively upon the preparation of the silver dollars. It is claimed

charcoal is solely used, in order to avoid the presence of sulphur, which is destructive to the finer metals. Nitre, soda, and common salt are used as purifiers, and at times powdered charcoal. Sometimes, but rarely, other means have to be resorted to.

THE MELT.

The condition of the melt must be watched at regular intervals, in order that the instant of purification the liquid metal may be poured. The contents of the crucible are poured into a shoe or open mould, and when cooled the ring, or nugget, is separated from the flux and returned to the receiving room. From this piece a sufficient quantity is taken to make an exact assay. The iron moulds, weighing 40 pounds each, carried 64 times for each melt, makes 76,800 pounds handled, the total being 175,520 pounds, or 78 tons. A melt of silver from the present pots 64 ingots, weighing altogether about 3,000 ounces. The size of the ingot is 13 inches in length, 14 inches in width and one-half inch in thickness, weighing about 44 ounces troy. These ingots are rolled down for the new dollar to a thickness of 82,1000th of an inch, and cut to a diameter of 11 inches. The keeping up of the average of purity in the smelting is done by a constant succession of granulated assays. In a melt after the first two ingots they pour a granulated assay, and next to the last another assay. If they do not agree the melt is condemned. The silver now in use is the Dore silver from the Comstock lode. It seldom needs refining, and is taken as a rule from the bar to the melting pot.

ASSAYING GOLD.

The piece of gold which is taken from the bar is beaten out and rolled into a thin plate, and from it is weighed a half gramme, the customary quantity for gold being about 7.7 grains, troy. The weights used in approximating the quantities is stamped 1,000, and all the lesser weights are decimal divisions of this sum down to a ten-thousandth. Silver is next weighed out for the alloy, for the gold piece should contain 900-1000 of gold the silver used must be three times this proportion, or 2,700-1000. The lead used in the process is in thin sheets cut into square pieces, weighing ten times as much as the gold under assay. This sheet of lead is melted into the shape of a hollow cone and into this is introduced the piece of gold to be assayed and the proper proportion of silver. This combination of metal is placed in a cupel or small dish made of bone-ash, an article capable of absorbing the base metals, and placed in a furnace heated to a bright red heat. The cup is permitted to remain until the surface of the melted metal has become bright. This indicates that the whole of the base metals have been converted into oxides and are assayed by the cupel. The button thus produced is, when cool, pressed into a sheet between cylinder rollers, and annealed at least twelve, and is then made into a little roll termed a "cornet." The silver that remains is extracted by the use of sulphuric acid. This is effected by the use of the platinum apparatus, an English invention. It consists of a small tray technically called a basket, made of platinum, divided into twelve small compartments, each of sufficient size to hold a cornet. In this is boiled nitric acid, which extracts the silver and leaves the gold free from admixture with any other metals. The gold is then left in its purity.

THE SILVER ASSAY.

Granulated silver is used in the silver assay, as it has been demonstrated by this mint and the mint of Paris, France, that out of a granulated mass the same fineness results, whether by assaying a single granule or a number together. From a sample of silver prepared in this way the weight 1,115-1000 of a fixed, very small quantity is taken, which is dissolved with nitric acid. Into this solution a pipette full of standard solution of salt is introduced and it instantly produces a white precipitate which is chloride of silver, containing of metallic silver 1,000 parts. A pipette is a small vial shaped glass vessel.

To make this chloride subsides rapidly; the liquid should be violently shaken, and this is done by a mechanical arrangement, the time occupied being about twenty minutes. If the entire amount of silver is not precipitated an introduction of a portion of the solution is made capable of precipitating a thousandth of silver and a white cloud of the chloride will be seen. This is repeated until the liquor is clear. If in the operation three measures of the dacial solution is effective it will show that the 1,115 parts of silver contained 1,003 parts of pure silver. All the excess was impure matter. This department of the Philadelphia mint has been brought to the utmost limit of present metallurgical science. As confirmative of their evident superiority an incident would not be inappropriate.

COINING DEPARTMENT.

Occupying the larger portion of the eastern floor, it is considered the most interesting part of the operations of the mint. There are eleven presses in this room of different sizes, varying according to the work required of them. Each press is capable of coining 120 pieces per minute, but the average run is but eighty, as beyond that number the danger of injury to the press in case of accident is much increased.

The larger presses, of which there are five, will only be used in coining the new silver dollar, and at the rate of eighty pieces each per minute, or 24,000 an hour. On each silver dollar, to a hydraulic press exerting a power of about one hundred tons. It is not a rapid blow, but may be truly termed a pressure exercising a quick but not percussive power. A percussive always crystallizes the metal, an objection entirely avoided by this application of force.

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This is the finishing process, and the coin, bright and sparkling, is taken to the counting board to be repacked, weighed and shipped to its destination. It may be observed here that in this as in all other departments of the mint, the weighing process and an exact entry of the same is of vital necessity. The gold and silver coins, when completed, are transferred to the chief coiner's room, where they are put up in packages ready for delivering to the Treasury.

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Referring to the remarks about the decision of the Louisiana Supreme Court in the Anderson case being in the interest of conciliation, the Cincinnati Times says: "It is the business of a court to measure out justice—and justice is a passionless thing to which neither patriotism, sentiment, nor conciliation enter. The idea of supposing that a great court should shape its rulings with a romantic idea conciliating anybody, escapes being an insult to every sense of justice only by its exceeding absurdity."—*Inter Ocean.*

MELTING.

In this department there is a force of forty-one men engaged in smelting gold and silver or in subsidiary operations. Of this force there are seven masters and seventeen helpers engaged solely in melting silver. The gang are now working exclusively upon the preparation of the silver dollars. It is claimed

by Prof. Booth that he can melt daily with this force ingots sufficient to make \$50,000 silver coin. This is their full capacity of work within ten hours, and is larger than has ever been executed in this mint or in any other. By working overtime with the same force and with the same furnaces they could produce \$75,000 daily, or lastly, by using the additional furnaces and overtime, \$100,000 per day might be produced.—This would increase the ratio of production from \$1,000,000 per month to \$2,250,000 per month.

It is curious to note the amount of work performed by the mint. The \$90,000 production per day weighs 17,700 pounds, and being handled sixteen times a day makes 88,700 pounds. The iron moulds, weighing 40 pounds each, carried 64 times for each melt, makes 76,800 pounds handled, the total being 175,520 pounds, or 78 tons. A melt of silver from the present pots 64 ingots, weighing altogether about 3,000 ounces.

The mint is a mystery to the outside world generally a mystery, and few are permitted to see the operation as conducted at the mint. A plain statement, devoid of technicalities, will be of interest to those who cannot gain access to the inner workings of this establishment.

THE ASSAY.

This form of detection of the true value of the precious metals is to the outside world generally a mystery, and few are permitted to see the operation as conducted at the mint. A plain statement, devoid of technicalities, will be of interest to those who cannot gain access to the inner workings of this establishment.

The assay of the melt must be watched at regular intervals, in order that the instant of purification the liquid metal may be poured. The contents of the crucible are poured into a shoe or open mould, and when cooled the ring, or nugget, is separated from the flux and returned to the receiving room. From this piece a sufficient quantity is taken to make an exact assay. The iron moulds, weighing 40 pounds each, carried 64 times for each melt, makes 76,800 pounds handled, the total being 175,520 pounds, or 78 tons. A melt of silver from the present pots 64 ingots, weighing altogether about 3,000 ounces.

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STATE ITEMS.

Burke county is enriched by a new mica mine, which is now being worked. Bishop Atkinson of the Episcopal Church is now making his yearly visits throughout the state.

The news from the wheat country indicates prospects for a good crop in quantity and quality.

The old "Scotch Fairs" of Robeson county which of late have not had much vitality, have lately been merged into "court week" at Lumberton.

A new military company has been organized at Hickory, designated as the Catawba Light Infantry. The officers are Davis, Neville, Allian and Royster.

There are races set down for Weldon on the 16th and 17th of April. The management is always good at that place and the horse differences are a success.

The Carolina Central R. R. are building at Laurinburg a new passenger coach for the through route between Charlotte and Norfolk. The cost will be about \$5,000.

Extensive fires have occurred in the vicinity of Fayetteville and in Harnett county, also on the line of the C. C. Railway, by which a considerable amount of property has been destroyed.

Illicit distilling is yet carried on in the western part of the state, the activity of officers of the law notwithstanding. Any one who interferes with the law breakers is called a "minion," this indicates a healthy public sentiment.

Gov. Vance has appointed Col. W. H. Tucker of Raleigh, and Leicles Chapman, Esq., of Asheville, honorary Commissioners to the Paris Exhibition. We are glad to note that there is one eminent gentleman of the state that has no military title. Asheville is to be congratulated.

An Astonishing Fact.

A large proportion of the American people are to-day dying from the effects of Dyspepsia or disordered liver. The result of these diseases upon the masses of intelligent and valuable people is most alarming, making life actually a burden instead of a pleasant existence of enjoyment and usefulness as it ought to be.

CRUDE TURPENTINE.—The market was steady and unchanged, the receipts of the day being placed at \$1 25 for Hard and \$2 00 for Yellow Dip and Virgin, with the usual deduction of one-fifth on the latter.

COTTON.—The market for this article opened dull at a decline of 1¢ on previous quotations, but closed with a better feeling; sales reported during the day of only 22 bales at prices ranging from 9 to 9 1/2 cts per lb, according to quality. The following are the official quotations:

WILMINGTON MARKETS.

March 21.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.—The market opened dull at 29 cents per gallon for country packages with sales reported of 35 casks at 29 cents, and 150 do at 29 cents, closing firm at 29 cents bid, without reported transactions at that figure.

ROSIN.—The market was dull at \$1 35 for Strained and \$1 37 for Good Strained, with buyers and sellers apart. No sales to report.

TAR.—The market was steady. The receipts of the day being disposed of at \$1 40 per bbl.

CRUDE TURPENTINE.—Market steady and unchanged, the receipts of the day being placed at \$1 25 for Hard and \$2 10 Yellow Dip and Virgin, with the usual deduction of one-fifth on the later.

COTTON.—Market firm and unchanged, the receipts of the day being disposed of at \$1 40 per bbl.

CRUDE TURPENTINE.—The market was nominally unchanged, the last reported sales being at 29 cents per gallon for country packages. Nothing doing.

ROSIN.—The market was firm at \$1 32 for Strained, \$1 35 for Good Strained.

Sales reported to day of 1,500 bbls.

Good Strained at \$1 35 per bbl.

TAR.—Market firm and unchanged, the receipts of the day being disposed of at \$1 40 per bbl.

CRUDE TURPENTINE.—The market was steady and unchanged, the receipts of the day being placed at \$1 25 for Hard and \$2 00 for Yellow Dip and Virgin, with the usual deduction of one-fifth on the latter.

COTTON.—The market was dull and nominally unchanged. The sales of the day amounted to 40 bales, at the following quotations:

Ordinary, 7 1/2 cts per lb

Good Ordinary, 8 1/2 " "

Low Middling, 9 1/2 " "

Middling, 10 1/2 " "

Good Middling, — " "

RECEIPTS.

Cotton, 66 bales
Spirits Turpentine, 95 casks
Rosin, 751 bbls
Tar, 546 bbls
Crude Turpentine, 408 bbls

RECEIPTS.

Cotton, 266 bales
Spirits Turpentine, 157 casks
Rosin, 1,552 bbls
Tar, 847 bbls
Crude Turpentine, 481 bbls

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